Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 AGRE-00 IGA-02 L-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00 /050 W

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R 041552Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4696 INFO US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 0750

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EAID, EEC, EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN EXPECTATIONS REGARDING FY-1978 PL-480 PROGRAM

REF: STATE 100092

1. AMBASSADOR RAISED WITH MINECON HAMED EL SAYEH TODAY DESIRABILITY GOE SEEKING INCREASED CONCESSIONAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER DONORS IF IT SUCCEEDS IN OBTAINING LOWER UMR AND SUGGESTED THAT EGYPTIANS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF UPCOMING CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING IN PARIS TO MAKE SUCH AN APPEAL TO POTENTIAL DONORS IN BILATERAL TALKS. THEY COULD, OF COURSE, ALSO DO SO ELSEWHERE IF THEY WISHED. AMBASSADOR TOLD EL SAYEH THAT USG WOULD SUPPORT SUCH EGYPTIAN APPEALS, BUT THAT GOE MUST TAKE THE INITIATIVE.

2. EL SAYEH KNEW ABOUT UMR'S, BUT WAS NOT AWARE OF ACTION TAKEN BY MINSUPPLY TO HAVE UMR FOR 78 REDUCED TO 1.6 MILLION TONS (CAIRO 6439). AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED OUR UNDERSTANDING OF ACTION MINISTER ZAKARIA TEWFIK HAS ALREADY TAKEN AND SUGGESTED EL SAYEH MIGHT WANT TO CHECK WITH MINSUPPLY FOR DETAILS.

3. EL SAYEH IMMEDIATELY GOT THE POINT AND AGREED GOE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHOULD MAKE SUCH AN APPEAL. HE UNDERTOOK TO OBTAIN DETAILS OF EGYPTIAN REQUEST FROM MINSUPPLY AND TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH DEPUTY PRIMIN KAISSOUNI WHEN HE MEETS WITH THE LATTER IN LONDON COMING FRIDAY. HE WAS SURE THAT KAISSOUNI WOULD AGREE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF OBTAINING AN AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE TO THE GOE REQUEST FOR A LOWER UMR AND TO URGE THE POTENTIAL DONORS TO

PROVIDE INCREASED CONCESSIONAL FOOD ASSISTANCE IN 78.
HE THOUGHT BILATERAL TALKS AT THE PARIS MEETING WOULD
BE A GOOD OCCASION TO DO SO. HE WAS APPRECIATIVE OF
USG SUPPORT FOR A LOWERED UMR AND OF ANY OTHER ASSISTANCE
WE MIGHT GIVE IN URGING POTENTIAL DONORS TO INCREASE
THEIR CONCESSIONAL FOOD AID.
EILTS

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